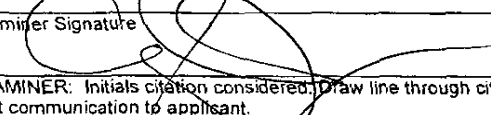


Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 05918-130002	Application No. 09/996,618
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant William H. Shepard et al.	
		Filing Date November 27, 2001	Group Art Unit 1771

(37 CFR §1.98(b))

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
R	AA	3,756,907	09/1973	Heling			
	AB	3,720,578	03/1973	Heling et al.			
	AC	3,756,907	09/1973	Heling			
	AD	4,116,892	09/1978	Schwarz			
	AE	4,154,885	05/1979	Tecl et al.			
	AF	4,223,059	09/1980	Schwarz			
	AG	4,363,845	12/1982	Hartmann			
	AH	4,418,104	11/1983	Kiyomura et al.			
	AI	4,451,314	05/1984	Knoke et al.			
	AJ	4,451,315	05/1984	Miyazaki			
	AK	4,490,425	12/1984	Knoke et al.			
	AL	4,600,605	07/1986	Nakai et al.			
	AM	4,806,300	02/1989	Walton et al.			
	AN	5,565,255	10/1996	Young et al.			
	AO	5,586,371	12/1996	Thomas			
	AP	5,618,583	04/1997	Young et al.			
	AQ	5,664,302	09/1997	Thomas			
	AR	5,685,756	11/1997	Noda			
	AS	5,695,377	12/1997	Triebes et al.			
	AT	5,699,593	12/1997	Jackson			
AU	5,736,214	04/1998	Billarant				
AV	5,747,584	05/1998	Noda				
AW	5,773,120	06/1998	Deka et al.				
AX	5,843,057	12/1998	McCormack				
AY	5,858,515	01/1999	Stokes et al.				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 10-20-03
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 05918/130002		SERIAL NO. 09/996,618	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR 1.98(b))				APPLICANT William H. Shepard et al.		FILING DATE November 27, 2001	
				GROUP 1771			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
✓	AA	2 9 1 3 8 0 3	11/24/59	Dodds			
✓	AB	3 1 5 2 3 8 1	10/13/64	Priester, Jr., et al.			
	AC	3 7 0 5 0 6 5	12/5/72	Stumpf			
	AD	3 7 0 8 3 6 1	1/2/73	Stumpf			
	AE	3 8 2 2 1 6 2	7/2/74	Stumpf			
	AF	4 2 9 5 2 5 1	10/20/81	Tatham et al.			
	AG	4 3 7 7 8 8 9	3/29/83	Tatham et al.			
	AH	4 4 4 6 1 8 9	5/1/84	Romanek			
	AI	4 5 3 6 4 3 9	8/20/85	Forsten			
	AJ	4 7 5 0 4 4 3	6/14/88	Blaustein et al.			
✓	AK	4 9 7 3 3 2 6	11/27/90	Wood et al.			
✓	AL	4 9 9 2 1 2 4	2/12/91	Kurihara et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
✓	AM	0 482 749 A1	29/04/92	EPO			
✓	AN	0 604 731 A1	06/07/94	EPO			
	AO	WO 95/17111	29/06/95	PCT			
✓	AP	GB 2 285 093 A	28/06/95	Great Britain			
✓	AQ	GB 2 290 052	13/12/95	Great Britain			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)							
✓	AR	Assoc. of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry, "The Needlepunch Primer", INDA pp. 1-29 (1995)					
✓	AS	Foster, "Needlepunching A Unique Sector," FW: Nonwovens Manufacturing, pp. 2-6 (1996)					
	AT						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED 10-20-03			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
AA	3 3 4 1 3 8 6	09/12/67	White et al.				
AB	3 3 4 7 7 3 5	10/17/67	Dildilian				
AC	3 6 7 4 6 1 8	07/04/72	Spann				
AD	3 6 9 4 8 6 7	10/03/72	Stumpf				
AE	4 1 5 4 8 8 9	05/15/79	Platt				
AF	4 3 7 9 1 8 9	04/05/83	Platt				
AG	4 3 8 9 4 4 2	06/21/83	Pickens, Jr. et al.				
AH	4 3 9 1 8 6 6	07/05/83	Pickens, Jr. et al.				
AI	5 1 4 4 7 3 0	09/08/92	Dilo				
AJ	5 6 1 4 2 3 2	03/25/97	Torigoe et al.				
AK	5 6 1 6 3 9 4	04/01/97	Gorman et al.				
AL	5 6 2 2 5 7 8	04/22/97	Thomas				
FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AM	EP 0 341 993	11/15/89	Europe				
AN							
AO							
AP							
AQ							
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)							
AR							
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(37 CFR 1.98(b))				FEB 19 2002		FILING DATE November 27, 2001	
				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		GROUP 1771	

EXAMINER (INITIAL)		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
2	AA	4 3 2 0 1 6 7	03/16/82	Wishman	428	89	
2	AB	4 3 7 9 1 8 9	04/05/83	Platt	428	89	
	AC	4 3 8 9 4 4 2	06/21/83	Pickens, Jr. et al.	428	92	
	AD	4 6 2 4 1 1 6	11/25/86	Rogers	66	193	04/08/85
	AE	4 7 6 1 3 1 8	08/02/88	Ott et al.	428	85	08/29/86
	AF	4 9 3 1 3 4 3	06/05/90	Becker et al.	428	95	01/22/88
	AG	4 9 7 3 3 2 6	11/27/90	Wood et al.	604	391	11/30/87
	AH	5 0 3 2 1 2 2	07/16/91	Noel et al.	604	391	05/17/89
	AI	5 1 4 4 7 3 0	09/08/92	Dilo	28	109	08/02/90
	AJ	5 6 0 5 7 2 9	02/25/97	Mody et al.	428	37	01/19/95
	AK						
	AL						

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
2	AM	07300752 A	94.11.14	Japan			Yes
2	AN	0 780 505 A2	97.06.25	EPO			Yes
2	AO	WO 92/01401	92.02.06	WIPO			
	AP						
	AQ						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)		
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AT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449
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05918/130002SERIAL NO.
09/996,618INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
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EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
4	BA	5 0 6 6 2 8 9	11/19/91	Poliski			
7	BB	5 1 5 1 3 2 0	9/29/92	Homonoff et al.			
	BC	5 2 1 6 7 9 0	6/8/93	Eschenbach			
	BD	5 2 5 6 2 3 1	10/26/93	Gorman et al.			
	BE	5 3 2 6 6 1 2	7/5/94	Goulait			
	BF	5 4 0 3 3 0 2	4/4/95	Roessler et al.			
	BG	5 4 2 3 7 8 9	6/13/95	Kuen			
	BH	5 4 7 6 7 0 2	12/19/95	Datta et al.			
	BI	5 5 3 1 7 3 2	7/2/96	Wood			
	BJ	5 5 4 2 9 4 2	8/6/96	Kline et al.			
	BK	5 5 4 7 5 3 1	8/20/96	Allen et al.			
	BL	5 5 5 4 2 3 9	9/10/96	Datta et al.			
	BM	5 5 6 9 2 3 3	10/29/96	Goulait			
	BN	5 5 9 5 5 6 7	1/21/97	King et al.			
	BO	5 6 1 1 7 9 1	3/18/97	Gorman et al.			
	BP	5 6 1 4 2 8 1	3/25/97	Jackson et al.			
	BQ	5 6 1 5 4 6 0	4/1/97	Weirich et al.			

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FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
BR	JP 71-71011	11/7/95	Japan			
BS						

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED 10-20-03

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Substitute Disclosure Form (PTO-1449)

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
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APPLICANT
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November 27, 2001GROUP
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
✓	AA	3 7 0 8 8 3 3	01/09/73	Ribich et al.	24	204	03/15/71
✓	AB	4 2 5 8 0 9 7	03/24/81	Benedyk	428	224	04/26/79
✓	AC	4 4 2 4 2 5 0	01/03/84	Adams et al.	428	198	04/21/82
✓	AD	4 6 0 0 6 1 8	07/15/86	Raychok, Jr. et al.	428	92	03/16/84
✓	AE	4 6 4 5 6 9 9	02/24/87	Neveu	428	95	06/24/85
✓	AF	4 6 5 4 2 4 6	03/31/87	Provost et al.	428	88	09/05/85
✓	AG	4 7 3 9 6 3 5	04/26/88	Conley et al.	66	190	07/08/87
✓	AH	4 9 8 1 7 4 9	01/01/91	Kubo et al.	428	129	11/16/89
✓	AI	5 2 1 4 9 4 2	06/01/93	Peake, III et al.	66	194	06/06/91
✓	AJ	5 2 6 7 4 5 3	12/07/93	Peake, III et al.	66	194	03/22/93
✓	AK	5 3 0 4 1 6 2	04/19/94	Kuen	604	391	12/30/92

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

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✓	AL	EP 0 605 013 A1	06.07.94	European				
✓	AM	EP 0 765 616 A1	02.04.97	European				
✓	AN	JP 8-27657	01/30/96	Japan			X	
✓	AO	JP 10-151005	06/09/98	Japan			X	
✓	AP	JP 2-41156	02/09/90	Japan				X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
05918/130002SERIAL NO.
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APPLICANT
William H. Shepard et al.FILING DATE
November 27, 2001GROUP
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(37 CFR 1.98(b))

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
5	BA	5 3 8 0 3 1 3	01/10/95	Goulait et al.	604	391	01/16/92
5	BB	5 3 8 2 4 6 1	01/17/95	Wu	428	86	03/12/93
	BC	5 3 8 3 8 7 2	01/24/95	Roessler et al.	604	391	08/06/93
	BD	5 3 8 6 5 9 5	02/07/95	Kuen et al.	2	400	07/15/94
	BE	5 3 9 1 4 2 4	02/21/95	Kotzer	428	220	02/03/92
	BF	5 4 0 7 4 3 9	04/18/95	Goulait	604	391	06/01/94
	BG	5 4 0 7 7 2 2	04/18/95	Peake, III et al.	428	88	10/18/93
	BH	5 4 4 7 5 9 0	09/05/95	Gilpatrick	156	178	05/24/93
	BI	5 4 4 9 5 3 0	09/12/95	Peake, III et al.	427	244	04/15/94
	BJ	5 4 7 0 4 1 7	11/28/95	Goulait	156	201	10/11/94
8	BK	5 4 7 6 7 0 2	12/19/95	Datta et al.	428	99	12/28/94

FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
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8	BL	JP 2-191735	07/27/90	Japan			X	
	BM	JP 6-123061	05/08/94	Japan			X	
	BN	JP 9-195153	07/29/97	Japan			X	
	BO	JP 9-195154	07/29/97	Japan			X	
8	BP	JP 9-195155	07/29/97	Japan			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

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Substitute Disclosure Form (PTO-1449)

SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449
(MODIFIED)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
05918/130002SERIAL NO.
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APPLICANT
William H. Shepard et al.FILING DATE
November 27, 2001GROUP
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(37 CFR 1.98(b))

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
8	CA	5 5 0 0 2 6 8	03/19/96	Billarant	428	100	01/31/95
8	CB	5 5 1 8 7 9 5	05/21/96	Kennedy et al.	428	100	10/06/94
	CC	5 6 1 6 1 5 5	04/01/97	Kronzer	51	295	05/26/95
	CD	5 6 5 4 0 7 0	08/05/97	Billarant	428	100	12/04/95
	CE	5 6 6 9 9 0 0	09/23/97	Bullwinkel et al.	604	391	11/03/94
	CF	5 6 6 9 9 0 1	09/23/97	LaFortune et al.	604	391	04/18/96
	CG	5 7 0 7 7 0 1 7	01/13/98	Burnes et al.	428	95	08/01/95
	CH	5 7 2 2 9 6 8	03/03/98	Datta et al.	604	391	01/29/97
	CI						
	CJ						

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
8	CK	JP 9-309168	12/02/97	Japan			X	
	CL	JP 4-56008	05/13/92	Japan			X	
	CM	JP 10-146207	06/02/98	Japan			X	
	CN	JP 10-165207	06/23/98	Japan			X	
8	CO	JP 6-33359	02/08/94	Japan			X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	

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Substitute Disclosure Form (PTO-1449)

SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 05918/130002		SERIAL NO. 09/996,618	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT William H. Shepard et al.			
(37 CFR 1.98(b))				FILING DATE November 27, 2001		GROUP 1771	
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE FEB 1 9 2002							
PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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DA							
DB							
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DG							
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DJ							
DK							

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FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
					YES	NO	
DL	WO 96/03101	08.02.96 PCT					
DM	WO 96/14459	17.05.96 PCT					
DN	WO 98/33410	06.08.98 PCT					
DO	JP 6-141913	24.05.94 Japan				X	
DP	JP 7-231842	09.05.95 Japan				X	

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)	
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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 05918/130002	Application No. 09/996.618
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant William H. Shepard et al.	
		Filing Date November 27, 2001	Group Art Unit 1771

(37 CFR §1.98(b))

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
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	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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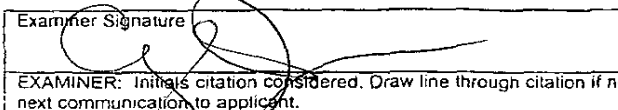
Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	EP 0 937 420 A2	25.08.99	Europe				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				FEB 19 2002		APPLICANT William H. Shepard et al.							
(37 CFR 1.98(b))				FILING DATE November 27, 2001		GROUP 1771							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER		ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE					
CS	CA	5	6	2	0	7	7	9	4/15/97	Levy et al.			
	CB	5	6	2	4	4	2	7	4/29/97	Bergman et al.			
	CC	5	6	4	7	8	6	4	7/15/97	Allen et al.			
	CD												
	CE												
	CF												
	CG												
	CH												
	CI												
	CJ												
	CK												
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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION						
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	CL												
	CM												
	CN												
	CO												
	CP												
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)													
	CQ												
	CR												
	CS												
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED								
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Substitute Disclosure Form (PTO-1449)

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(37 CFR 1.98(b))				FILING DATE November 27, 2001		GROUP 1771	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">46</div>	AA	4 3 7 9 1 8 9	04/1983	Platt			
	AB						
	AC						
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	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL							
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)							
	AQ	PCT/US98/18401 International Search Report Mailed 29 January 1999 (5 pp)					
	AR						
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